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May 23, 2012

Mr. Omar Ashmawy, Esq.
Staff Director and Chief Counsel
Office of Congressional Ethics
1017 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Request for Investigation of Park Strategies, LLC, for organizing and arranging officially-connected congressional travel

Dear Mr. Ashmawy:

Public Citizen requests that the Office of Congressional Ethics investigate whether the lobbying firm of Park Strategies, LLC, and the firm's principals violated their certification in Form LD-203 under the Lobbying Disclosure Act (LDA), that they have read and understand the gift and travel rules of the House and have not knowingly violated such rules, and House Rule 25, which requires the sponsor of a congressional trip to certify that the travel complies with congressional ethics rules.

Public Citizen, Inc., is a nonprofit membership organization headquartered in Washington, DC, with more than 250,000 members and supporters nationwide. Public Citizen advocates the interests of consumers and members of the public before Congress, administrative agencies and the courts on a wide range of issues. Prominent among Public Citizen's concerns has been combating the corruption of our political system, and as a result Public Citizen has long supported campaign finance and ethics legislation and advocated its enforcement.

A. Restriction on Lobbyists Arranging Trips

Congressional ethics rules governing officially connected travel for members and staff prohibit lobbyist accompaniment or involvement in planning, organizing, requesting or arranging most trips. Travel sponsored by American institutions of higher learning are exempt from this restriction, though lobbyists and foreign principals still cannot pay for these trips.

House Rule XXV(5)(c)(3) states:

A Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House may not accept a reimbursement (including payment in kind) for transportation, lodging, or related expenses for a trip (other than a trip permitted under paragraph (b)(1)(C) of this clause) if such trip is in any part

planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.

The House Ethics Manual clearly explains the meaning of this rule: “Accompaniment by a lobbyist or foreign agent is **prohibited** on any travel segment of a multiple-day trip. Members and staff are **prohibited** from participating in any multiple-day trip that was planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.”¹ [Emphasis original]

B. Lobbyist Liability for Violating Congressional Ethics Rules

Under the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act (HLOGA) of 2007, lobbyists and lobby registrants, as well as private sponsors of officially-connected travel, have been made liable for misrepresenting the nature of trips or otherwise encouraging or causing violations of congressional ethics rules.

Information required of registrants by Section 5(d) of the LDA, and incorporated into Form LD-203, includes a certification that the registrant has read and understands the gift and travel provisions in the rules of both the House and the Senate, and that the registrant has not and will not knowingly violate the congressional ethics rules, under penalty of perjury. House Rule 25 and Senate Rule 35 also require the sponsor of officially connected travel to certify that the travel complies to congressional ethics rules.

Under these new congressional rules and statutory obligations imposed on lobbyists and sponsors of trips, the House ethics committee in 2010 found that officers and employees of the Carib News and the Carib News Foundation (who were not registered lobbyists) – Karl Rodney, Faye Rodney, and Patricia Louis – submitted “false and misleading information” to the committee during its pre-travel reviews and again when providing sworn testimony to the investigative subcommittee. The ethics panel unanimously voted to refer the information about the officers of the Carib News and the Carib News Foundation to the Department of Justice “for further action as it deems appropriate.” At least one officer pleaded guilty.²

C. Role of Park Strategies in Arranging Officially-Connected Congressional Travel

An investigative report by ProPublica found that Rep. Bill Owens (D-NY) and his wife were provided an all-expense paid trip to Taiwan in 2011, ostensibly hosted by the Chinese Culture University in Taiwan. The trip cost the sponsor a total of \$22,132.³

After scrutinizing emails and other documents made available through the Foreign Agents and Registration Act (FARA), the report concluded that the trip was initiated and arranged by registered lobbyists at Park Strategies LLC, a lobbying firm based in New York working on behalf of the government of Taiwan.

¹ Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, HOUSE ETHICS MANUAL (2011) at 96.

² Nelson King, “Carib News Publisher Pleads Guilty,” Caribbean Life News (April 19, 2011).

³ Justin Elliott, “Lobbyists Arranged Congressman Bill Owens’ \$20,000 Trip to Taiwan,” ProPublica (May 11, 2012).

Much to the credit of Rep. Owens, immediately after ProPublica broke the story that the trip may have been illegally arranged by lobbyists, Owens agreed to pay the entire cost of the trip out of his own pocket.

However, no investigation or action has yet been taken against Park Strategies LLC and the lobbyists who were at the heart of the alleged infraction. Email messages and other documents attached to this complaint appear to show that Park Strategies spent at least four months working as the principal organizers of the trip on behalf of its paying client, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office. The planning appears to have started when two lobbyists for the firm, John Zagame and Sean King, initiated the idea over lunch in August 2011. Between August and January, there were 35 exchanges by phone, email and in-person about the trip between Park Strategies lobbyists, including former Sen. Alfonse D'Amato and LaShaun Lesley, and Owens' staff.⁴

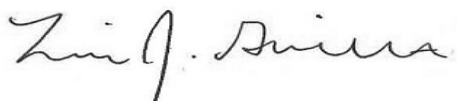
Normally, Park Strategies organizes these trips as "cultural exchanges" under the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act (MECEA), which has unique rules governing congressional travel. But when Rep. Owens wanted to bring his wife along on the trip, Park Strategies had to rearrange the travel because MECEA does not allow reimbursed spousal travel. Under the new arrangement, the Chinese Culture University agreed to serve as a private sponsor, which meant that lobbyists and foreign principals could no longer initiate, organize or arrange the trip.

Public Citizen requests that the Office of Congressional Ethics investigate at least three issues related to this trip:

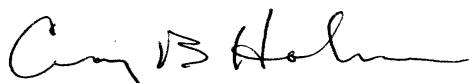
1. Did Park Strategies, LLC, and its lobbyists play a principle role in initiating, organizing and arranging this trip, in violation of House Rule XXV?
2. What was the source of the \$22,132 used to pay for the trip?
3. Did Park Strategies, LLC and its lobbyists violate their oath provided under Section 5(d) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act by encouraging a violation of congressional ethics rules?

HLOGA fully recognizes that infractions of congressional ethics rules are not always the fault of Members themselves, and that the integrity of the ethics rules requires that lobbyists, as well as Members and staff, who seek to manipulate, ignore or encourage violations, be held responsible.

Sincerely,



Lisa Gilbert
Acting Director,
Public Citizen's Congress Watch



Craig Holman, Ph.D.
Government affairs lobbyist,
Public Citizen

⁴ Id.

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A. Justin Elliott, “Lobbyists Arranged N.Y. Congressman’s \$20,000 Trip to Taiwan,” ProPublica (May 10, 2012).

Appendix B. Joseph Yeh, “Owens’ Taiwan Trip in Accordance with Federal Regulations: Foreign Minister,” The China Post (May 15, 2012).

Appendix C. Post-travel disclosure form.

Appendix D. King-Boutin emails (Oct. 3-31, 2011).

Appendix E. LaShaun Lesley email re: travel for Rep. Gingrey (March 22, 2011).

Appendix F. LaShaun Lesley email re: travel for Rep. Shuster (April 26, 2011).

Lobbyists Arranged N.Y. Congressman's \$20,000 Trip To Taiwan



Rep. Bill Owens and his wife Jane took a trip to Taiwan organized by lobbyists. (Alex Wong/Getty Images)

by [Justin Elliott](#)

ProPublica, May 10, 2012, 8 p.m.

Update May 11, 2012: Rep. Bill Owens [announces](#) he will reimburse costs for Taiwan trip.

Two days after Christmas last year, Rep. Bill Owens, D-N.Y., and his wife, Jane, boarded a first-class flight to Taiwan for a four-day tour of the island. Owens and his wife roomed at \$500-a-night luxury hotels and enjoyed fine meals between meetings with Taiwanese officials and a day trip to Taipei's famed [National Palace Museum](#).

How Lobbyists Arranged Rep. Bill Owens' Trip to Taiwan

The Chinese Culture University in Taiwan had ostensibly invited the congressman and his wife "to promote international cultural exchange." In fact, lobbyists for Taiwan's government had organized the trip. Congressional ethics rules prohibit members from participating in most trips arranged by lobbyists.

Although Owens filed a travel disclosure with the House Ethics Committee that identifies the trip's sponsor as the Culture University, [email messages and other documents](#) reviewed by ProPublica show that lobbyists from the New York firm Park Strategies, founded by former New York Sen. Al D'Amato, had invited Owens on the trip and spent four months organizing it.

A [rule](#) passed by Congress after the Jack Abramoff [scandal](#) states: "Member and staff participation in officially-connected travel that is in any way planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a lobbyist is prohibited."

Besides D'Amato, others involved in arranging the trip included two executives at his firm, John Zagame and Sean King, son of Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y. The Park Strategies lobbyists are registered foreign agents for the government of Taiwan.

"Lobbyists are not supposed to be associated with this trip in any way — they are not supposed to be organizing this or orchestrating it," said Public Citizen's [Craig Holman](#), who helped draft the post-Abramoff reforms.

The Ethics Committee investigates potential rule violations and can recommend penalties, such as censure or a fine, to the full House. The committee approved Owens' trip before he left, but the congressman's filings with the panel listed only the Culture University as sponsor and did not mention Park Strategies.

Both Park Strategies and Owens' spokesman told ProPublica they believe the trip complied with House rules.

Congress adopted the rule barring lobbyist involvement in most congressional travel after abuses exposed by the Abramoff influence-peddling scandal. Trips were a favorite [method](#) of Abramoff to warm members of Congress and staffers to his clients' interests. In the most serious case, Rep. Bob Ney, R-Ohio, was [sentenced](#) to 30 months in prison in 2007 after admitting he accepted [luxury travel](#) and other gifts from Abramoff while helping the lobbyist's clients.

Park Strategies' organizing role in the Owens trip stands out because it is documented by an unusually [rich trove](#) of email and other records filed by the firm with the Justice Department under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, which requires disclosure of congressional contacts by lobbyists for foreign governments, businesses and political organizations, among others.

The episode also sheds light on Park Strategies' work to influence Congress on behalf of Taiwan. The nation is constantly seeking greater military and diplomatic aid from the U.S. in its standoff with China, which considers the island a breakaway territory.

Park also has worked to advance Taiwanese commercial interests in the U.S., including arranging meetings with a semiconductor manufacturer that has [business](#) in upstate New York. Owens, who has served in the House since 2009, represents a rural swath of northern New York including [areas](#) bordering Vermont and Canada.

Flying First Class

Owens' Taiwanese hosts spent \$360 per day for meals for the congressman and his wife, or a total of \$1,440 for the four-day trip, ethics committee [filings](#) show. Lodging for the couple at the [Grand Formosa Regent Taipei](#) and the [Ambassador Hotel Kaohsiung](#) averaged \$520 per night. First- and business-class flights to and from Taipei cost more than \$19,000 for the couple.

The grand total for the trip: \$22,132.

D'Amato's Park Strategies [signed](#) up as a foreign agent for Taiwan's de facto embassy, known as the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO), in 2009. The firm has recently worked to increase congressional pressure on the Obama administration to sell advanced F-16 fighter jets to Taiwan — a top priority of that government. In a shift last month, the administration [signaled](#) it might approve the sale. It's been a lucrative account for the firm, with Taiwan paying more than \$250,000 in 2011 alone, filings show.

The man "[leading](#) the firm's push into Asia" is Sean King, a former Bush administration Commerce Department staffer. His father, Rep. King, is a longtime D'Amato ally going back to their days together in the Nassau County Republican Party. The elder King considers D'Amato his [mentor](#). Sean King divides his time between New York and Park Strategies' office in Taipei, where he also maintains a residence, according to his official [bio](#).

Between August and January, there were 35 exchanges about the trip between Park Strategies lobbyists and Owens and his aides — by phone, email and in person — including a December call between D'Amato and Owens.

The planning appears to have started in early August 2011, when Zagame and Sean King met for lunch at [KyoChon Chicken](#) at Fifth Avenue and 32nd Street in Manhattan to discuss the trip and other matters. They [billed](#) Taiwan for the \$50 check.

Later that month, King and Zagame, a [former](#) New York state assemblyman and D'Amato's chief of staff in the Senate, reached out to Owens' chief of staff and his senior legislative assistant, Jon Boughtin.

King [sent](#) Boughtin a draft itinerary in mid-October. "This gives Mr. Owens a rough idea of what he might expect if he goes," King wrote. "It can be adjusted as per his needs and wishes to incorporate whatever other stops, or meetings, he might want to make." At the end of the month, Boughtin checked with King about the funding of the trip. Boughtin wanted to make sure the trip would be covered under a 1961 law called the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act (MECEA).

"YES, it would be," King replied.

The Constitution [bars](#) gifts from foreign governments to U.S. officials unless Congress specifically authorizes them. But under the [MECEA law](#), the State Department can approve programs to promote culture exchange that are proposed by other countries. Once a program is approved — Taiwan's was OK'd in 2006 — members of Congress can take a qualifying trip paid by that government.

But Owens' trip was not paid under MECEA, which strictly applies to programs funded by foreign governments. Instead, a private entity — the Chinese Culture University — was brought in to pay for it. Spouses and other family members are not allowed to go on MECEA trips, and Owens' wife was to accompany him, emails show.

Park Strategies regularly asks members of Congress and staff to travel to Taiwan. For example, Rep. Tom Reed (R-N.Y.) went there in October on a Park organized trip, although it was paid for under the MECEA program.

‘Whenever’s Good For Rep. Owens’

In November, Boughtin was proposing possible trip dates in email messages to Sean King. “Whenever’s good for Rep. Owens is I’m sure also good for Taiwan,” King wrote in a Nov. 3 [email](#).

Later that month, Boughtin’s requests had shifted: Owens’ wife was now involved. “The boss and his wife are looking to travel to Taiwan beginning on December 27th,” he [wrote](#) Nov. 21.

A week later, the Chinese Culture University entered the picture. Its president sent Owens and his wife an official [invitation](#) to visit Taiwan during the dates Boughtin had specified to King.

Why was the school paying for the trip? In a [filing](#) with the House Ethics Committee, the school explained: “The Chinese Culture University aims to promote international cultural exchanges in order for it to thrive in a world increasingly engineered by an irresistible thrust towards globalization.”

The itinerary accompanying the filing was in the same format as the sample itinerary King had sent to Boughtin, and many of the stops were the same.

On Dec. 5, a few days after the university sent Owens the invitation, King traveled to Washington to meet with Owens and a staffer about the trip. The next day, Owens’ office filed a required pre-trip request [form](#) with the House Ethics Committee. On Dec. 7, D’Amato and Owens discussed the trip by phone.

Also on Dec. 7, China Airlines sent confirmation of the flight to Taiwan to a pair of Owens staffers.

There were nine more contacts between Parks Strategies lobbyists and Boughtin about the trip before Owens and his wife departed Dec. 27. During the trip itself, King had two contacts with Boughtin, and another after the trip was over Jan. 3.

Taiwan Embassy Involvement

Park Strategies appears to have proposed this kind of handoff to a private sponsor to at least one other member of Congress who wanted to travel with a family member. In one [email](#) last year, LaShaun Lesley, then the firm’s compliance coordinator, wrote to the chief of staff of Rep. Bill Shuster, R-Pa., about a trip to Taiwan for Shuster and his son. “About a week ago, you and I spoke about Congressman Shuster possibly travelling to Taiwan with his son and having it paid through a private sponsor,” she wrote. “In principle, we’ve been told by Taiwan’s representatives that travel to Taiwan through a private sponsor can in fact be arranged.”

The trip never happened.

As for the Owens trip, there is little evidence that the Chinese Culture University was involved other than hosting a dinner for the congressman. But Taiwanese government officials appear in many of the planning documents.

In two [November emails](#) between King and Boughtin, the name of Frank Lee, the director of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office’s congressional liaison division, comes up. On Nov. 21, Boughtin told King the final dates of the trip, adding, “I’ll reach out to Mr. Frank Lee about the details but wanted to let you know. Thanks!”

A week later, King offered more help on the trip planning. Boughtin [responded](#), “So far so good! I think the Embassy [TECRO] has what they need from us so far, but I’ll let you know when I know more.”

Lee told ProPublica that King had reached out to TECRO about Owens traveling to Taiwan. “Sean asked me to work with the member’s office,” Lee said.

Since the Chinese Culture University doesn’t have any staff in the United States, Lee said, “Our job is to help arrange the trips.” He said TECRO did not provide any funds to the university for congressional trips, which the school has also [sponsored](#) in the past. He said he understood that King, as a lobbyist, was not allowed to organize trips for members. But Lee said, “[King] just passed a message to this office, and we just took it over.” Asked about the email messages and contact logs showing extensive discussions between Park Strategies and Owens’ office about the trip, Lee referred questions to Park Strategies.

“While Park Strategies did ask Congressman Owens to visit Taiwan, and also offered input regarding his travel agenda, the trip was sponsored by Taiwan’s Chinese Cultural University,” Park Strategies Managing Director Christopher D’Amato said in a statement.

D’Amato, the former senator’s son, maintained the trip did not violate congressional travel rules because “lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging Members’ overseas travel is permitted for travel that is sponsored by an institute of higher education.”

There is an [exception](#) for institutions of higher education in the prohibition on lobbyist-organized trips, but it applies only to American institutions. The House rules state that lobbyists can organize trips “when the travel is sponsored by an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965.” [Section 101](#) defines schools as existing in the United States.

Park declined to comment further.

The Chinese Culture University did not check the box defining itself as an institution of higher education on its pre-trip [filing](#) with the Ethics Committee.

Owens spokesman Sean Magers told ProPublica in a statement: “Congressman Owens filed all the necessary paperwork with the House Ethics Committee and conducted the trip with their approval. The trip was planned through significant communication with the embassy of Taiwan, and we believe it was conducted within full compliance of House rules.”

The ethics committee did not offer comment in response to multiple calls.

Pitch to Taiwan Semiconductor

As part of his trip, Owens met with an executive from Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company to pitch the company on upstate New York, where a competing company is building a chip fabrication plant. The latter [project](#) was [made possible](#) with more than \$1 billion in state incentives.

“They were receptive but not committal,” Owens [told](#) the Watertown Daily Times.

Park Strategies also represents Mohawk Valley EDGE, an economic development [agency](#) in central New York, according to a Park Strategies [email](#) from

November. Officials from the Mohawk agency, which covers an area that includes part of the redrawn district in which Owens is seeking re-election, also traveled to Taiwan last summer to visit the semiconductor maker.

Park Strategies is one of the fastest-growing lobby shops in New York, [having taken in](#) more than \$3 million in state and local business in 2011, according to a Newsday analysis of state lobbying records.

In the months after Owens returned from his trip, Park Strategies executives, including King, D'Amato's brother Armand, and Christopher D'Amato, collectively [donated](#) \$3,500 to Owens' campaign. D'Amato's wife, Katuria, also gave Owens \$2,500. Owens' contest against Republican [Matt Doheny](#) is [rated](#) a "pure tossup" by The Rothenberg Political Report.

The congressman doesn't appear to have voted on any Taiwan issues since he returned in January. In July, just before the trip planning got under way, Park Strategies' King asked Boughtin to have the congressman sign a [letter](#) supporting the F-16 sale to Taiwan.

Boughtin [emailed](#) him back: "[W]e're on board. All set!"

Owens' spokesman said the Taiwan letter and the trip were unrelated. Nearly 200 other lawmakers also signed the letter.

Owens' Taiwan trip in accordance with regulations: foreign minister

Tuesday, May 15, 2012
The China Post

By Joseph Yeh—The foreign minister yesterday denied claims of irregularities surrounding the invitation of a United States congressman to Taiwan last December, amid accusations that the trip broke U.S. House of Representatives' ethics rules.

“Our invitation to all visiting foreign guests are all conducted in accordance with related regulations,” Timothy Yang said yesterday during a legislative session.

The U.S. Congressman Bill Owens' Taiwan trip last year was organized by a private party to enhance bilateral understanding, Yang said.

Such invitation to a foreign lawmaker was a must to boost closer ties amid a “difficult diplomatic situation” for Taiwan in global stage, the minister added.

Yang's comments came amid media speculation that the four-day trip Owens and his wife took last December violated a U.S. ethics rule forbidding members of Congress from taking any trips planned, requested or arranged by lobbyists.

The trip, which cost a total of US\$22,132, was ostensibly paid by Taiwan's Chinese Culture University (中國文化大學) on the grounds of “cultural exchanges.”

But documents showed that a New York-based lobbying firm Park Strategies hired by the Taiwanese government was deeply involved in the trip, according to two U.S. watchdog journalistic organizations — ProPublica and POLITICO — that first revealed the scandal.

Park Strategies is reportedly a registered foreign agent for the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO), Taiwan's de facto embassy in Washington.

In response to the accusation, Owens, while denying any improprieties, said last week that he would pay back the cost of the luxury trip.

Accusation Sparked by Political Infighting: Yang

Quoting the U.S. reports, opposition Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) Legislator Tsai Huang-liang (蔡煌瑯) yesterday questioned the legitimacy of the tour and called the arrangement of the trip “flawed.”

Another DPP lawmaker Bi-khim Hsiao (蕭美琴) said the poor planning of the visit could prevent other U.S. congressmen from coming to Taiwan for fear of breaking related regulations.

In response, Yang, who fielded questions at a hearing of the Legislature's Foreign and National Defense Committee, insisted that the trip was in line with related laws.

Yang said the accusations made against Owens could be a sign of political infighting in the U.S. with the approaching elections, but also promised to ask the foreign ministry to conduct a review to check if the lobbying firm should be blamed for the incident.

Meanwhile, Bruce Linghu, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's Department of North American Affairs, said yesterday that Owens' visit to Taiwan was in full line with the legal procedure.

The trip also received approval from the U.S. House's Ethics Committee in advance, Linghu told the local media on the sidelines of the committee meeting.

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U.S. House of Representatives
112th Congress

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MEMBER / OFFICER POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties. You need not disclose government-funded or political travel on this form, or travel that is unrelated to official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report all privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual Financial Disclosure Statement. In accordance with clause 5 of House Rule 25, complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, B-106 Cannon House Office Building, within **15 days** after travel is completed. The Clerk is to make these forms available to the public as soon as possible after they are received. *Obtain the dollar amounts from the sponsor; if exact dollar amounts are unavailable, provide a good faith estimate.*

Name of Member or Officer (print or type): Rep. William Owens

Name of Accompanying Family Member (if any): Jane Owens

Relationship to Member/Officer: ☒ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____

Date of Departure and Date of Return: 12/27/2011 - 1/1/2012

Dates at personal expense: _____

Itinerary (cities of departure – destination – return): Montreal - Los Angeles - Taipei

Taipei - Vancouver - Montreal

Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): Chinese Culture University

Describe meetings and events attended (attach additional pages if necessary): _____

See attached itinerary

Attached to this form are EACH of the following (signify "yes" for each item by checking the corresponding box):

1. ☒ the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form completed by trip sponsor, including all attachments;
2. ☒ the Privately-Sponsored Travel Approval Form completed by the Member or officer; *and*
3. ☒ the Committee on Ethics letter approving my participation on this trip.

I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the sponsor's agenda (signify "yes" by checking box): ☒

If not, explain: _____

TRIP EXPENSES:

| | Total Transportation Expenses | Total Lodging Expenses | Total Meal Expenses |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| For Member or Officer: | \$9566.10 | \$780 total | \$720 |
| For accompanying family member: | \$9566.10 | \$780 total | \$720 |

| | Other Expenses (dollar amount) | Specific Nature of Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| For Member or Officer: | NA | |
| For accompanying family member: | NA | |

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER OR OFFICER: _____

DATE: ~~1-4-12~~ 1-13-12

Version date 1/2011 by Committee on Ethics

**U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics**

**PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)**

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form in each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): Chinese Culture University
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box): ☒
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box): ☒
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? ☒ Yes ☐ No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): Please see attachment
6. Dates of travel: December 27, 2011-January 1, 2012
7. Cities of departure - destination - return: New York City (or Washington DC or other cities in the district)-Taipei-New York City (or Washington DC or other cities in the district)
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box): ☒
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: ☐ or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: ☒ or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations. ☐
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: ☐ or
 - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered. ☐

If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box): ☒
12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:
The Chinese Culture University is a private academic institution located in Taipei, Taiwan. The University constantly sponsors educational and fact-finding programs for international visitors to travel to Taiwan.
13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip:
The Chinese Culture University aims to promote international cultural exchanges in order for it to thrive in a world increasingly engendered by an irresistible thrust towards globalization.
14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (i.e., a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted:
The sponsor will provide first-class commercial flights because the length of flights combining both the domestic and international legs is about 21 hours between US and Taiwan.
15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify "yes" by checking box): ☒
16. I represent that either (check one of the following):
 a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: ☐ or
 b. The trip involves events that are arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation: ☒
 If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided):
The estimated cost of meals for each participant per day is approximately \$160 USD
17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: To learn first hand about current US-Taiwan relations on various aspects, including security cooperation, trade partnership, educational and cultural exchanges.
18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: Grand Formosa Regent Taipei
19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided):
Approximately \$200 USD per night per room
20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: The hotel is located in downtown Taipei close to most of the meeting venues

21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

| | | | |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates | Total Transportation Expenses per Participant | Total Lodging Expenses per Participant | Total Meal Expenses per Participant |
| For each Member, Officer, or employee | \$10,000 USD | \$800 USD | \$750 USD |
| For each accompanying family member | \$10,000 USD | \$0 (Spouse) | \$750 USD |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| | Other Expenses (dollar amount) | Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.) |
| For each Member, Officer, or employee | N/A | |
| For each accompanying family member | N/A | |

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box): ☐

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Chingli Kuo
 Name and title: Chingli Kuo, Director of PR Office, CCU
 Organization: Chinese Culture University
 Address: No. 55, Hwa-kang Rd., Yang-ming-shan, Taipei, 111, Taiwan R.O.C.
 Telephone number: +886-2-2861-0511
 Fax number: +886-2-2861-6824
 Email Address: gq1@staff.pccu.edu.tw

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Ethics
 U.S. House of Representatives
 1015 Longworth House Office Building
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)
 (202) 225-7392 (fax)

**Members of the House of Representative invited to
Delegation to Republic of China (Taiwan) from December
27-31, 2011 :**

1. Rep. Bill Owens
2. Mrs. Jane Owens

**U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics**

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL: TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: William Owens, Jane Owens
2. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): China Culture University
3. Travel destination(s): Taipei, Kichsiung
4. a. Date of Departure and Date of Return: 12/27/11 - 1/1/12
b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, dates at personal expense: _____
5. a. Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? ☒ Yes ☐ No
b. If yes, name of accompanying family member: Jane Owens
c. Relationship to traveler: ☒ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____
6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "yes" to Question 9(c) on the Trip Sponsor form (i.e., the travel is being sponsored by an entity that employs a lobbyist)? ☐ Yes ☒ No
b. If yes, check one of the following: ☐ N/A – Sponsor checked 9(a) or 9(b)
(1) Approval for one-night's lodging and meals is being requested: ☐ or
(2) Approval for two-nights' lodging and meals is being requested: ☐
If "(2)" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____
7. Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments (indicate that form is attached by checking box): ☒
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to your individual official or representational duties:
Opportunity to explore economic development opportunities for Upstate New York, as well as defense and security related issues.
9. **FOR STAFF:**

TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR EMPLOYING MEMBER:

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Date: 12/6/11

Signature of Employing Member

NOTE: This page must be submitted with your post-travel disclosure form within 15 days of your return, so you should maintain a photocopy of the completed form for your records.

**U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics**

**PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL: TRAVELER FORM
For Members, Officers, and Employees**

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection. *Please type form. Form (and any attachments) may be faxed to the Committee at (202) 225-7392.*

YOUR COMPLETED REQUEST MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE COMMITTEE NO LESS THAN 14 DAYS BEFORE YOUR PROPOSED DEPARTURE DATE. Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 14 days before the trip commences.

Name of Traveler: William Owens, Jane Owens

I certify that the information contained on both pages of this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): _____

For staff, name of employing Member/Committee: _____

Office address: 431 Cannon

Phone number: 202-225-4611

Email address of contact person: JOE.BUGHTIN@MAIL.HOUSE.GOV

- ☐ Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet and the traveler is a Member traveling to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity and these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 14 days before the trip departure date.

NOTE: You must complete the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee:

Committee on Ethics
U.S. House of Representatives
1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-7103 (phone)
(202) 225-7392 (fax)



學 大 化 文 國 中
Chinese Culture University
HWA KANG, YANG MING SHAN
TAIWAN, REPUBLIC OF CHINA

November 29, 2011

The Honorable Bill Owens
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
U.S.A.

Dear Congressman Owens:

It gives me great pleasure to invite you and Mrs. Owens to visit the Republic of China (Taiwan) from December 27 to 31, 2011, as guests of the Chinese Culture University (CCU).

Chinese Culture University is one of Taiwan's leading institutions of higher education. A private university founded in 1962, CCU has developed a comprehensive undergraduate program that reflects its understanding of Taiwan's role in the broader global community. Our founders knew that in order to grow and prosper in its present historical and global setting, Chinese culture must inherit the best that the East and the West have to offer. To this end, the university has also developed a strong program of international exchanges and sister university relations.

CCU is inviting you and others from the U.S. Congress on this educational and fact-finding visit to Taiwan as part of our effort to broaden relations through new exchange initiatives. We hope to introduce you to Taiwan, its people, and the range of issues that shape its domestic and national security policies today – and which have direct relevance to the United States and U.S.-Taiwan relations. Therefore, we have formulated a program that will include meetings with key leaders in both the government and private sectors, exchanges with policy experts from CCU and other institutions, and visits to important economic and cultural sites. CCU will provide round-trip air transportation to Taipei, and local transportation and accommodations during your stay in Taiwan.

I hope you can join your colleagues for this visit to Taiwan, which we believe will be both educational and an opportunity to exchange views and build lasting relationship. Please contact my Assistant Ms. Lynn Yu at yulingyi@staff.pccu.edu.tw for additional information. I look forward to seeing you in Taiwan.

Sincerely,

Wanniyh Wu
President

Jo Bonner, Alabama
Chairman
Linda T. Sánchez, California
Ranking Member

Michael T. McCaul, Texas
K. Michael Conaway, Texas
Charles W. Dent, Pennsylvania
Gregg Harper, Mississippi

John A. Yarmuth, Kentucky
Donna F. Edwards, Maryland
Pedro R. Pierluisi, Puerto Rico
Joe Courtney, Connecticut



ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

December 20, 2011

Daniel A. Schwager
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Joanne White
Administrative Staff Director

Kelle A. Strickland
Counsel to the Chairman

Daniel J. Taylor
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
Telephone: (202) 225-7103
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

The Honorable William L. Owens
U.S. House of Representatives
431 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your and your spouse's proposed trip to Taiwan, scheduled for December 27, 2011, to January 1, 2012, sponsored by the Chinese Culture University.

You must complete a Member Travel Disclosure Form and file it with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are required to attach a copy of this letter and the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form, including attachments. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$350 from a single source on Schedule VII of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act, gifts "of minimal value [currently \$350] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of \$350 received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

Jo Bonner
Chairman

Linda T. Sánchez
Ranking Member

JB/LTS:re

美國聯邦眾議員歐比爾
訪華行程草案

Tentative Itinerary of the visit by Hon. William Lewis "Bill" Owens

and Mrs. Owens

to the Republic of China (Taiwan)

December 28 – 31, 2011

中華民國一百年十二月二十八日（星期三）

Wednesday, December 28, 2011

| | |
|-------|---|
| 20:50 | 搭乘中華航空第005號班機抵華 |
| | Arrive at Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport via China Airlines CI-005 |
| | 本案承辦人Case Officer：高秘書國亮 Mr. Colin KAO 公務手機Cell Phone：+886-978060687 |
| 夜宿 | 台北晶華酒店 台北市中山北路二段41號 |
| RON | Grand Formosa Regent Taipei 41 Chung Shan North Road, Sec. 2, Taipei, Taiwan Tel: +886-2-2523-8000 Fax: +886-2-2523-2828 |

中華民國一百年十二月二十九日（星期四）

Thursday, December 29, 2011

| | |
|-------|--|
| 10:00 | 拜會國防部楊副部長念祖 Call on President Ma / Hon. Dr. Nian-zu YANG, Vice Minister , |
|-------|--|

| | |
|-------|---|
| | Ministry of National Defense (MND) |
| 15:00 | 拜會立法院外交委員會帥委員化民 Call on Hon. SHUAI, Hua-Ming, Legislator, Member of Foreign Affairs and National Defense Committee, Legislative Yuan |
| 16:30 | 拜會台北市美國商會 Call at American Chamber of Commerce in Taipei |
| 18:00 | 文化大學張董事長鏡湖及 ▪ 校長萬益 ▪ 宴 Dinner hosted by Dr. Chin Hu CHANG, Board Chairman of Chinese Culture University and Dr. WU, Wann Yih, President of of Chinese Culture University |
| 20:54 | 搭高鐵第255號次班車往左營 Depart for Zuoying, Kaohsiung via Taiwan High Speed Rail No. 255 |
| 22:30 | 抵左營 Arrive at Zuoying, Kaohsiung |
| 夜宿 | 國賓飯店 地址：高雄市民生二路202號 |
| RON | Ambassador Hotel Kaohsiung Phone : +886-7-211-5211 Fax : +886-7-201-0348 ADD : 202 Min Sheng 2nd RD., Kaohsiung, Taiwan, R.O.C. |

中華民國一百年十二月三十日（星期五）

Friday, December 30, 2011

| | |
|-------|---|
| 09:30 | 參訪左營海軍基地 Visit Zuoying Navy Base |
| 11:00 | 參訪高雄關 ▫ 局「貨櫃安全計劃」及「大港計劃」執行情形 Call at Kaohsiung Customs Office for CSI /Mega-Port Project |
| 13:00 | 搭高鐵第158號次班車往台北 Depart for Taipei via Taiwan High Speed Rail No. 158 |
| 15:00 | 抵台北 Call on Rick Tsai, CFO of TSMC |
| 18:00 | 拜會外交部楊部長進添 Call on H.E. Timothy YANG, Foreign Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| 18:30 | 外交部楊部長 ▫ 宴 Dinner hosted by Foreign Minister YANG |

中華民國一百年十二月三十一日（星期六）

Saturday, December 31, 2011

| | |
|-------|---|
| 10:00 | 參訪國立故宮博物院 Visit National Palace Museum |
| 16:00 | 參觀中正紀念堂 Tour Taipei 101 Financial Center |
| 17:00 | Meeting with Hsiao Bi-khim of the Democratic People's Party |

| | |
|-------|--|
| 19:00 | ▪ 餐 Dinner at leisure |
| 23:00 | 搭中華航空第032號班機離華 Depart Taipei via CI-032 |

Boughtin, Jon

To: Li-Chih Cheng
Subject: RE: TECRO contact after Nov. 22 for Congressman Owens' visit

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ken Chong <ci.kenchong@gmail.com>

Date: 2011/12/7

Subject: China Airlines E-TKT Confirmation for OWENS/WILLIAM LEWIS & JANE ELEANOR

To: craig.belden@mail.house.gov, "Boughtin, Jon" <Jon.Boughtin@mail.house.gov>, Li-Chih Cheng
<lichihcheng@tecro.us>

CHINA AIRLINES LTD.
LOS ANGELES BRANCH OFFICE
200 N. CONTINENTAL BLVD.
EL SEGUNDO, CA.90245.
U.S.A.
TEL 1-800-227-5118
FAX 1-310-322-3888

PASSENGER ITINERARY 7DEC 2011

PASSENGER NAME :

1. OWENS/WILLIAM LEWIS ETKT: 2972475605551
2. OWENS/JANE ELEANOR ETKT: 2972475605552

RECORD LOCATOR : K6TDHY Air Canada: MZRSQR

FLIGHT RESERVATION

DATE FLIGHT AIRPORT FROM/TO TIME CLASS STATUS STOP

| | | | | |
|-------|--------|-----------------|--------|----------------------|
| 27DEC | AC 797 | YUL-DORVAL | 0805 C | CONFIRMED |
| 27DEC | | LAX-LOS ANGELES | 1115 | |
| 27DEC | CI 5 | LAX-LOS ANGELES | 1355 F | CONFIRMED 0 NON STOP |
| 28DEC | | TPE-TAIPEI | 2050 | |
| 31DEC | CI 32 | TPE-TAIPEI | 2330 J | CONFIRMED 0 NON STOP |
| 31DEC | | YVR-VANCOUVER | 1805 | |
| 31DEC | AC 182 | YVR-VANCOUVER | 2330 D | CONFIRMED |
| 1JAN | | YUL-DORVAL | 0715 | |

SEAT SELECTION: CI5F27DEC 1-1A 2-1K
 CI32C31DEC 1-4J 2-4K

* INTERLINE STATUS IS FOR REFERENCE ONLY *

* PLEASE CHECK IN AT AIRPORT 2 HOURS BEFORE FLIGHT DEPARTURE *

* FOR DELHI AIRPORT (ECONOMIC CLASS PASSENGER ONLY)

PLEASE CHECK IN AT AIRPORT 3 HOURS BEFORE FLIGHT DEPARTURE *

* FOR TICKET ISSUED ON/AFTER 15 APRIL 2008, THE MAX WEIGHT OF EACH CHECKED BAGGAGE CARRIED BY ECONOMY CLASS PASSENGERS ON TRANSPACIFIC ROUTES INCLUDG GUAM IS CHANGED FROM 32KGS TO 23KGS.

FOR DETAILS PLEASE CHECK LOCAL CHINA AIRLINES OFFICE *

* EACH CABIN BAGGAGE MAY NOT EXCEED 56X36X23CM IN SIZE AND 7KG IN WEIGHT. IF OVERWEIGHT OR OVERSIZED, IT WILL BE TRANSPORTED AS CHECKED BAGGAGE. EXCESS BAGGAGE CHARGE WILL BE COLLECTED IF THE TOTAL PIECES/WEIGHTS CHECKED EXCEED YOUR FREE CHECKED BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE. FREE CABIN BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE OF F/C/Y PASSENGERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:
 FIRST CLASS: 2PIECES, OR ONE PIECE PLUS ONE GARMENT BAGGAGE (THICKNESS NOT OVER 20CM)
 BUSINESS CLASS: ONE PIECE PLUS ONE GARMENT BAGGAGE

(THICKNESS NOT OVER 20CM)

ECONOMY CLASS: ONE PIECE

*

THANK YOU FOR FLYING WITH CHINA AIRLINES AND WISH YOU A
PLEASANT TRIP

Ken Chong 張伙堅

CHINA AIRLINES 中華航空

Area Sales Manager WAS DC

Cl.KenChong@gmail.com

Tel: 202-429-2033

--

This message has been scanned for viruses and
dangerous content by MailScanner, and is
believed to be clean.

--

Li-Chih Cheng

Officer, Congressional Liaison Division

Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO)

4201 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20016, USA

202.895.1845 (O)

202.494.5037 (C)

202.244.3046 (F)

Sean King

From: Sean King
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2011 9:45 AM
To: Boughtin, Jon
Subject: RE: Taiwan-F16 Letter

This material is distributed by Park Strategies, LLC on behalf of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

YES, it would be. Thanks, Jon.

Sean King | Park Strategies | www.parkstrategies.com
101 Park Avenue | New York, NY 10178 | USA
☎ +1 (212) 883-5608 | 📠 +1 (212) 883-5643 | ✉ sking@parkstrategies.com
Suite 211, 2F, #97, Dunhua S. Rd., Sec. 2 | Taipei | Taiwan, R.O.C.
☎ +886 (2) 7711-1020 | 📠 +886 (2) 7711-7288

From: Boughtin, Jon [Jon.Boughtin@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2011 09:43
To: Sean King
Subject: RE: Taiwan-F16 Letter

Hey Sean, trying to get our ducks in a row on this. Just making sure, this trip would be covered under the Mutual Education and Cultural Exchange Act (MECA), right?

From: Sean King [<mailto:sking@parkstrategies.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2011 12:05 PM
To: Boughtin, Jon
Cc: 'jzagameny@msn.com'; Katz, Bradley
Subject: RE: Taiwan-F16 Letter

This material is distributed by Park Strategies, LLC on behalf of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Dear Jon,

Thanks for your note. I've heard around the House won't be in session after the holidays until January 17th, but let's talk more as we learn more.

As you know, Park Strategies, LLC, Senator D'Amato and I are registered with the U.S. Department of Justice, under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, as agents on behalf of our client, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) in the United States.

Best wishes,
Sean King

From: Boughtin, Jon [<mailto:Jon.Boughtin@mail.house.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2011 3:38 PM
To: Sean King
Cc: 'jzagameny@msn.com'; Katz, Bradley
Subject: RE: Taiwan-F16 Letter

NOV 18 AM 11:39
JAG/CEA/SEA/CTA/OTD

Sean, I apologize for just now getting back with you. We're constrained from scheduling Q1 events until we get the Congressional schedule for next year, but I know the boss is still interested in the trip if we can make it work. I'm happy to stay in touch with you though as we get some insights on what that's going to look like, and hopefully we can make this happen sooner rather than later. Thanks for being patient, we'll plan to talk soon. Best,

-Jon

From: Sean King [<mailto:sking@parkstrategies.com>]
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2011 6:08 PM
To: Boughtin, Jon
Cc: 'jzagameny@msn.com'; Katz, Bradley
Subject: RE: Taiwan-F16 Letter

This material is distributed by Park Strategies, LLC on behalf of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Dear Brad and Jon,

Congressman Tom Reed (R-NY) just returned yesterday from Taiwan, and I wanted to share with you his itinerary (please see attached). This gives Mr. Owens a rough idea of what he might expect if he goes. It can be adjusted as per his needs and wishes to incorporate whatever other stops, or meetings, he might want to make. You might also want to speak with Mr. Reed's Chief of Staff, Jay Dutcher, who accompanied him on the trip, just to get his take on the experience.

Jon, I remember you mentioning the first half of January as a possible time when Mr. Owens might consider visiting Taiwan. As discussed, Taiwan's legislative and presidential elections will be held on Saturday, January 14th and Taiwan officials have no problem at all with Members visiting at that time. In fact, they think it'd be one of the more interesting times for them to be there.

We look forward to discussing this possible trip with you further. As you know, Park Strategies, LLC, Senator D'Amato and I are registered with the U.S. Department of Justice, under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, as agents on behalf of our client, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) in the United States.

Best wishes,

Sean King | Park Strategies | www.parkstrategies.com
101 Park Avenue | New York, NY 10178 | USA
☎ +1 (212) 883-5608 | 📠 +1 (212) 883-5643 | ✉ sking@parkstrategies.com
Suite 211, 2F, #97, Dunhua S. Rd., Sec. 2 | Taipei | Taiwan, R.O.C.
☎ +886 (2) 7711-1020 | 📠 +886 (2) 7711-7288

From: Boughtin, Jon [<mailto:Jon.Boughtin@mail.house.gov>]
Sent: Monday, October 03, 2011 9:18 AM
To: Sean King
Cc: 'jzagameny@msn.com'
Subject: RE: Taiwan-F16 Letter

Hey John, checking back in. Any info you can provide on TSMC vis a vis the Governor's announcement last week? I wanna make sure Bill's briefed before the event this week if at all possible. Thanks as always,

-Jon

Valerie Levin

From: LaShaun Lesley
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2011 12:53 PM
To: david.sours@mail.house.gov
Cc: Vito Fossella
Subject: Taiwan Travel
Attachments: MECEA.pdf

This material is distributed by Park Strategies, LLC on behalf of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Sours,

My name is LaShaun Lesley, a colleague of Vito Fossella's. As you may know, Park Strategies, LLC and I are registered with the U.S. Department of Justice, under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, as agents on behalf of our client, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) in the United States.

Pursuant to Congressman Fossella's conversations with Congressman McCotter regarding possible congressional travel to Taiwan and our understanding that Rep. Gingrey is also interested in traveling to Taiwan, please see attached correspondence between former U.S. Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy Karen Hughes and former Taiwan Ambassador David Tawei Lee regarding the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act (MEACA) of 1961. Taiwan has qualified for MEACA since 2006. As such, any Taiwan visit by Congressman Gingrey could be paid for through the MEACA program, i.e. using Taiwan funds that are administered by the U.S. State Department.

If Congressman Gingrey is interested in visiting Taiwan, please let us know how he feels about having it paid via the MEACA program. If not, we can explore other options. Thanks so much in advance for your assistance. We are proposing travel during spring recess.

Best wishes,

LaShaun Lesley
Park Strategies, LLC
101 Park Avenue, Suite 2506
New York, NY 10178
212 883-5608

Valerie Levin

From: LaShaun Lesley
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 3:47 PM
To: rob.simms@mail.house.gov
Cc: Vito Fossella
Subject: Taiwan Travel

This material is distributed by Park Strategies, LLC on behalf of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Mr. Simms,

Good afternoon. My name is LaShaun Lesley. About a week ago, you and I spoke about Congressman Shuster possibly travelling to Taiwan with his son and having it paid through a private sponsor. Before I proceed, I have to reiterate that Park Strategies and I are registered with the U.S. Department of Justice, under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, as agents on behalf of our client, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) in the United States.

In principle, we've been told by Taiwan's representatives that travel to Taiwan through a private sponsor can in fact be arranged. As soon as Congressman Shuster has decided if and when he would be able to visit Taiwan, alone or with another Member, we will happily help coordinate his travel logistics. Please let us know whatever other questions you and/or Congressman Shuster might have.

Best,

LaShaun Lesley
Park Strategies, LLC
101 Park Avenue, Suite 2506
New York, NY 10178
212 883-5608

HSC/CES/REGISTRATION
UNIT
2011 MAY 11 AM